

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:DFINNERTY

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:KKURZE

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O 131910Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 159785

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO DHAHRAN ABU DHABI NICOSIA
KUWAIT TEHRAN SANAA LONDON USMTM DHAHRAN FROM JIDDA AUG 13

QUOTE

S E C R E T JIDDA 3450

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF FOR ISA; USCINCEUR

NICOSIA FOR AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, YE, TC

SUBJ: EMERGENCY ARMS FOR YAR

REF: (A) STATE 159482 (B) SANAA 1514

1. DATT HAS JUST RETURNED FROM YAR. IN HIS OPINION YAR HAS
URGENT OPERATIONAL NEED FOR SMALL ARMS AND AMMO APPLICABLE TO
COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS AND HAS PSYCHOLOGICAL NEED FOR
SIGNIFICANT SHIPMENTS MILITARY EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL DEMONSTRATE
TO ARMED FORCES THAT YARG IS OBTAINING SUPPORT FROM FRIENDS

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AND NEIGHBORS NOW THAT YARG IS TURNING AWAY FROM EASTERN BLOC.

2. ALL THE WEAPONS AND AMMO REQUESTED APPEAR JUSTIFIED ANDR REASONABLE. IN PARTICULAR THE 106 RECOILLESS HAS EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN ARMED FORCES THIS REGION AND QUANTITY REQUESTED SHOULD GIVE NEEDED PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST AS WELL AS FLEXIBILITY IN OPERATIONS IN RUGGED TERRAIN. AT BAB EL MANDEB WHERE YARG FEARS A PDRY ARMORED THRUST UP THE TIHAMA PLAIN, YAR ARMY HAS POSITIONED TANKS ON MOUNTAIN TOP DEFENSIVE POSITIONS FOR LACK OF SUITABLE ANTI-TANK WEAPONS. REPLACEMENT BY 106 RECOILLESS WOULD FREE TANKS FOR BETTER UTILIZATION AS RESERVE COUNTERATTACK FORCE.

3. AGREE WITH SANAA (REF B) THAT WE CALCULATE MATERIAL COST AT 1.9 RATHER THAN 2.7 MILLION DOLLARS. SINCE SHAIKH ZAYID OF ABU DHABI HAS NOT ANNOUNCED ANY CEILING ON PRICE HE WILLING TO PAY, RECOMMEND WE TRY FOR ENTIRE PACKAGE TO INCLUDE 106 RECOILLESS.

4. CRITICAL THAT 106 AMMO INCLUDE ADEQUATE QUANTITY CAL .50 SPOTTER ROUNDS AS WELL AS 106 MM AMMO. AMMO RECEIVED BY YAR ARMY FOR 106 RIFLES PROVIDED BY SAUDI ARABIA DID NOT INCLUDE SPOTTER ROUNDS THUS TRAINING AND EFFECTIVENESS GREATLY REDUCED. THACHER
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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